

# CNE Endeavor

## FAQ: The Product

October 12, 1995

*VFX Technologies, Inc.*

### **What is CNE Endeavor?**

CNE Endeavor is a comprehensive testing program that will help CNE candidates prepare for successful certification. This unique and powerful tool contains thousands of questions, extensive user feedback and the ability to cross reference popular study guides.

### **What makes CNE Endeavor unique?**

All testing applications contain a few hundred questions and answers. All provide a score at the end of each test. Some offer brief paragraphs to further explain selected answers.

CNE Endeavor offers more:

Each test in CNE Endeavor contains between 500 and 1,000 questions.

Each question, through cross referencing, can direct you to specific pages in the world's most popular study guides. This feature allows you to fully research and comprehend the most complex facts and concepts as explained by industry experts.

Every correct, partially correct and incorrect score is recorded into an extensive user performance history. This performance database will be presented back to the user in many different forms to provide unequalled insight into your personal state of advancing knowledge. It will increase your awareness regarding areas of consistent strength and weakness. You can even construct new tests based on past performance.

The true power and significance of CNE Endeavor will become obvious as you begin to use and understand it.

### **What tests are currently covered by CNE Endeavor?**

- DOS & Microcomputer Concepts (1100, 50-015)
- 2.2 System Manager (501, 50-020)
- 2.2 Advanced System Manager (502, 50-044)
- 3.1x Administration (508, 50-130)
- 3.1x Advanced Administration (518, 50-131)
- 3.1x Installation & Configuration (802, 50-132)
- 3.x to 4.1 Update (526, 50-162)
- 4.1 Administration (520, 50-152)
- 4.1 Advanced Administration (525, 50-161)
- 4.1 Installation & Configuration (804, 50-163)
- Networking Technologies (200, 50-147)
- Service and Support (801, 50-153)

(Contact us for a list of new additions.)

### **Why choose CNE Endeavor?**

The different paths traveled to CNE certification are as varied as the individual candidates themselves. CNE Endeavor excels in the area of self study. While every student chooses a unique combination of research materials, hands on experience, user groups, books, videos and training classes to gain knowledge, CNE Endeavor will help you effectively manage these resources through extensive testing and an unequalled level of objective feedback. Feedback that will help you leverage your investment of time and resources. Feedback that you will simply not find in any other product.

The road to certification is long and challenging. Don't be a passenger in your selected testing vehicle, take control, inject intelligence, apply focus and drive smart.

### **Where to begin?**

As with any large undertaking, a good strategy breaks large overwhelming tasks into smaller more manageable units. Achieving CNE certification is no different. Unlike other testing products that simply lump material from each test into one general area, CNE Endeavor allows you the option to break your testing into very manageable units (categories). Each testing category is based on a test objective.. The purpose is two fold. First, you will be able to participate in some meaningful testing while you prepare for a test. Secondly, by testing specific objectives, you will establish an extensive performance history. This performance history will serve to remind you as to your past weaknesses when the test is finally approached as a whole.

[Many test categories have been omitted from the evaluation version]

### **Why doesn't CNE Endeavor use the multiple choice format?**

The CNE exams are presented in a multiple choice format, an ideal method for mechanized scoring. However this automation does come with a price, correct answers must be presented to the candidate during the test. This makes formulating answers easier. Students make best guess selections or "reverse engineer" correct answers by eliminating incorrect answers. Test administrators are able to justify these problems for the sake of automation. But these are a few of the reasons why the methods that work well for certification testing do not work well for certification preparation.

Another factor that differentiates certification testing from certification preparation is recognition. Fortunately, certification tests are objective because questions are presented only once. There is no recognition factor, no familiarity factor. But what if each candidate were to see the same questions and answers again and again? Objectivity would be undeniably lessened, picking answers becomes a simple function of recognition. Some products simulate the certification testing environment, but claim they should be used repeatedly as study tool. These environments may produce valid results in a one time test simulation sense, but they are not meant to be used repeatedly preparing for a test. Each iteration becoming less and less objective.

Preparing for exams is a different game. CNE Endeavor does not use a multiple choice format - it challenges you to answer from memory - a true test of your knowledge that will hold up regardless of the certification test format you are presented with.

### **What is this performance history database?**

The incentive for any candidate to use testing software is to receive feedback, to gauge and to gain insight into personal progress. This insight is used to focus future efforts. Ironically, other testing applications provide very little feedback and no mechanism to utilize this information. Yes, you will be given a simple cumulative score at the conclusion of each test. Yes, you can also immediately retest your mistakes. But how does this one dimensional view of performance help the you in the long term?

CNE Endeavor provides you with the unique ability to view your personal performance graphically. Not just the final test score, but the how you performed on each and every question for the previous ten attempts. This history is presented in an easy to read sequence of colored blocks each time a question appears. Immediately you know if this is a question you consistently struggle with. You know if there is an upward or a downward trend in your ability to answer this question. You know if this is a question you have not previously attempted. You are now becoming aware of your areas of consistent strength, areas of consistent weakness, as well as areas of inconsistency. You are now seeing areas of concern and potential failure. These trends in performance are very difficult if not impossible to detect using any other preparation method. What better way to effectively guide your efforts? Information is power.

If that weren't enough, CNE Endeavor stores this performance history in a hidden two dimensional matrix (ten attempts for all 7,000+ questions). This matrix of over 70,000 cells, represents your complete knowledge (current and historical). But beyond simply capturing that information, CNE Endeavor allows you to use this database of invaluable information to your best advantage. Through the "control panel", you can now painlessly construct entire tests to focus on only the areas you want. You can concentrate only on weaknesses. You can review only your strengths. You can include various levels of strength and weakness or combination of the two. You control the filtering, you are not allowing your testing environment dictate to you.

To complete the performance feedback ability, CNE Endeavor will report cumulative performance, sorted by category. From one screen you can get the 50,000 foot view of your efforts through a color coded outlines of your scores in all testing categories. This provides further information about the general areas you have mastered and the general areas that represent risk. You are now informed about the areas that should receive more attention.

### **What about other CNE Endeavor features and benefits?**

CNE Endeavor can print tests to any Windows print device.

CNE Endeavor can save and recall complex configurations quickly and easily using long descriptive names. Pick up where you left off or create different variations and criteria for the same material.

CNE Endeavor offers extensive online help. Over 100 pages of written instruction is complimented by interactive maps.

CNE Endeavor allows you to personalize your environment by changing fonts, colors and screen appearance.

CNE Endeavor can run on minimum Windows hardware requirements, use it at work, home or mobile.

### **What are they saying about CNE Endeavor?**

Since its recent introduction (April, 1995) CNE Endeavor has been installed by thousands of users everywhere and has become the fastest growing CNE test preparation software available.

"...installation was blissfully uneventful. I am very pleased with the product and the service from VFX....I have been looking for a program like this for a long time. In the short time I have used this program (about a week now since I found the shareware program on Ziff Davis), I've made more progress than in the months of trying to wade through the 1500p CNE Study Guide and other tedious study aids. "

-- Lynne July Phoenix, AZ

"Looking forward to CNE Endeavor - v1.2. I use the current Endeavor program often and love it. I can't think of anything I would change! Keep up the good work."

-- John Kaiser Issaquah, WA

"...(CNE) Endeavor is a great program....VFX Technologies will always have my highest recommendation. I am amazed by your helpfulness."

-- James B. Steiner Westmont, IL

"CNE Endeavor did help me considerably so you now have yet another satisfied customer. "

-- Paul A. Ricketts Cowley Oxford, England

CNE Endeavor is an invited member of the Ziff-Davis Interactive program and has been listed as "What's Hot" by WinOnLine Review Magazine.

Our registered users include many Fortune 500 companies, prestigious Universities, many government agencies, small businesses, consultants and of course many, many individuals across the globe.

VFX Technologies, Inc. is now collaborating with New Riders Publishing to make CNE Endeavor the most potent CNE testing environment available anywhere. Indexes from five of the most popular New Riders Network Training Guides are now being added to our cross reference utility. Soon you will be able to explore this new version on the Macmillan Web site (<http://www.mcp.com/>) or from your favorite online source.

### **Where can I get CNE Endeavor?**

CNE Endeavor is available online through commercial services such as CompuServe, GEnie, Delphi, America Online and ZiffNet. It is available on

many major BBS's. CNE Endeavor can also be found throughout the Internet on over one hundred FTP sites and on the WWW.

In the "off line" world, you can find the program on CDROMs such as NSEPro, The SimTel Library, Ziff-Davis Interactive and many other widely distributed discs.

[Selected Internet FTP sites and WWW locations are listed at the end of this document. If you are a commercial online subscriber and would like to save money downloading CNE Endeavor, you can retrieve the file through the Internet.]

### **Is CNE Endeavor shareware?**

There are two versions of CNE Endeavor, evaluation and registered. The evaluation version of CNE Endeavor is freely distributed. Although the evaluation version offers a fully functional interface and over 700 questions divided into many tests and a few sample categories, it is limited. The registered version contains more than 7,000 questions, distributed throughout the most recent library of tests with each test containing dozens of categories.

Because we hope you will find the evaluation version of CNE Endeavor useful we have not embedded any "nag screens". Information on how to order can be easily found here, in the read.me, order.me and help files. There is no preset limit to evaluate the program.

Beware of products you may see only in advertisements. You can gain extensive experience with CNE Endeavor before you buy it.

### **Where can I purchase CNE Endeavor?**

CNE Endeavor can be purchased directly from VFX Technologies, Inc., directly through commercial online services, through mail order services and through some retail stores.

Through these various sales channels Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover Cards, check and money orders are all accepted. Through ANY channel, product is always shipped within 2 business days or less. Detailed information is listed at the end of this document.

### **Isn't CNE Endeavor expensive?**

At \$89.95 for the full version, this package contains many tests. The effectively per unit test cost is under \$7. Realistically you will probably not use every test, however even using a few tests represents a very low per test cost. If you require only a single test, the price is \$24.95. The purchase price of an individual test can be applied to a future purchase of the complete package. Other packages are also available at discounted prices.

### **Will I need to purchase CNE Endeavor updates?**

Updates to both the interface and tests are provided to registered users free of charge for the period of one year. If your certification takes up to one full year, you will still have the most up to date tests and questions required to successfully complete your certification.

### **What else?**

This is the conclusion of our overview. Thank you for taking a moment to learn more about our product. We hope this glimpse inside of CNE Endeavor and its method of test preparation has been helpful. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact us. You many hours of hard work ahead of you \_ but remember, there are no worthy goals easily achieved.

Best of luck!

VFX Technologies, Inc.  
610/265-9222  
vfxtech@ix.netcom.com  
70543,366  
vfx@aol.com

**Download information:**

CompuServe:           File:  
GO NOVUSER           CNEENDVC.EXE

Internet ftp site:     File:  
ftp.coast.net         /SimTel/win3/network/cneendvr.zip

WWW:  
<http://www.coast.net/SimTel/win3/network.html>

File name:: cneendvr.zip

**Other Product Information:**

The full registered version of CNE Endeavor includes over 7,000 questions covering at least thirteen of the tests listed at the top of this document. Each individual test contains between 500 and 1,000 questions distributed across many testing categories.

These tests are also available for sale individually.

New tests are always being added, contact us for an updated listing.

VFX Technologies, Inc. is committed to customer satisfaction. Orders, inquiries and requests for technical support are usually processed within 24 hours, seven days a week. We actively monitor many online services.

**Pricing Information:**

Any single test: \$24.95

Full product: \$89.95

The purchase price of any single test can be applied to future registration price of the complete product. All prices include free updates to the application and purchased tests. The program will include the Windows '95 multimedia edition.

There is a surcharge for credit card users purchasing the complete package.

**Purchasing Information (via credit card)**

Credit card users can register directly through VFX Technologies (610/265-9222). Call or mail credit card information, DO NOT send credit card information via email. VFX Technologies accepts VISA/MC/AMEX/DISC. Order forms can be printed from within the program or print the ORDRFORM.PRT file. (Full registered version is \$99.95 when paying by credit card, individual tests are \$24.95 plus any applicable shipping and tax).

VISA/MasterCard users can register through NorthStar Solutions. From the US call toll free 800/699-6395 or from outside the US call 803/699-6395, between the hours of 10am and 10pm (est) SEVEN days a week. You can also fax your order form (ORDRFORM.PRT) at ANYTIME to 803/699-5465.

Northstar cannot answer technical questions about the program, if you have any questions please contact us before ordering.

Credit card users can also order CNE Endeavor from Gene's Books (610/265-6210) for \$99.95 (plus any applicable shipping and tax). Gene's is an innovative bookstore located in the Philadelphia suburbs. They offer a comprehensive computer section containing discounted texts, over 5,000 magazines and many study guides. Gene's accepts VISA/MC/AMEX/DISC. You will NOT be asked to order books from Gene's when ordering CNE Endeavor, but you certainly can. Please ask for the corporate orders department. This is for the full registered version only.

### **Purchasing Information (via CompuServe)**

CompuServe users can register online through CompuServe Shareware Registration services: GO SWREG. Registration numbers are listed to the right for your convenience, additional tests may also be registered.

- #5419 - Full registered version (7,000+ Questions) is \$99.95
- #6562 - (4) 4.x Tests (2,300+ Questions) is \$59.95
- #6406 - 4.x System Administration (850+ Questions)
- #6560 - 4.x Adv. System Administration (450+ Questions)
- #6561 - 3.x to 4.x Update (550+ Questions)

Individual tests are sold for \$24.95, test available include. Tests not listed above may not be purchased online.

CompuServe registrations are usually emailed within a few hours of ordering. Additionally, original disks will be mailed via USPS.

### **Purchasing Information (via mail)**

To become a registered user of CNE Endeavor, send check or money order for the proper registration fee (plus shipping and applicable tax) made payable to VFX Technologies, Inc. to the address below. Full registered version is \$89.95, individual tests are \$24.95 each. It is not required that the order form be printed.

VFX Technologies, Inc.  
PO Box 80222  
Valley Forge, PA 19484-0222

Pennsylvania residents must add sales tax.

Residents in North America must add either \$3 for first class shipping, \$6 for second day priority service or \$12 for next day service.

Residents outside North America must add \$6 for shipping.

Email delivery is available for an additional charge of \$6.

Most orders are processed within 72 hours. (Not 3 to 4 weeks!!)

### **Contact Information:**



If you have any questions about our product please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you.

- Michael Herrick  
VFX Technologies, Inc.  
610/265-9222  
vfxtech@ix.netcom.com  
CompuServe: 70543,366  
AOL: VFX